

THE FLORA AND FAUNA OF NUYTS ARCHIPELAGO AND THE
INVESTIGATOR GROUP.

No. 17.—THE SCORPIONS, WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF SOME SPECIES
FROM OTHER LOCALITIES IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

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(Communicated by Professor F. Wood Jones.)

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The scorpions which form the subject of this paper were collected by Professor F. Wood Jones, of Adelaide, at various localities in South Australia. Of the four species represented in the collection three have long been known to occur in South Australia, but one of these, *Lychas marmoreus*, is represented in the series before me by a form previously recorded from a limited area near Geraldton, in Western Australia. The fourth species, *Lychas truncatus*, n. sp., is remarkable for the short truncated tooth under the aculeus; it is a desert form having the typical desert colouration and seems to be confined to the interior of South Australia and Victoria. There are several fine specimens of this scorpion in the collection of the National Museum, Melbourne, one of which has been selected as the type.

I am under an obligation to Professor Wood Jones for the opportunity of examining this small but very interesting collection.

LYCHAS MARMOREUS SPLENDENS, Kr.

Lychas marmoreus splendens, Kraepelin, 1916, Ark. Zool. K. Svensk. Vetensk. Ak. x., No. 2, p. 28.

Locality.—Black Rock Island (4), Greenly Island (2).

Remarks.—Professor K. Kraepelin, in his revision of the forms of *Lychas marmoreus* (C. L. Koch), states that the range of this subspecies appears to be restricted to "Northampton and Eradu, near Geraldton, Western Australia." I have seen specimens from Moora, Tammin, and Euro in Western Australia in addition to these South Australian specimens.

The two smaller individuals, from Black Rock Island, have 17-17 teeth to the pectines.

Lychas truncatus, n. sp.

Colour.—Trunk uniform tawny, ocular areas blackish, limbs and tail yellowish, hand and fingers uniform with no indications of darker markings, fourth segment of the tail and vesicle rather darker; under surface uniform pale yellow. *Carapace* dull, covered with coarse granulation, keels granular, moderately prominent, superciliary crest well marked, coarsely granular, extending forward for a distance equal to the horizontal diameter of the eye; median sulcus granular, a row of larger granules along the posterior border of the carapace. Frontal notch wide and shallow, frontal lobes slightly rounded. *Tergites* dull, covered with granules which increase in size towards the posterior border of each segment; median keel subdenticulate, obsolescent on the first tergite, chiefly developed on the hinder portion of the next five; last tergite with posteriorly abbreviated subdenticulate median keel and four strongly granular lateral keels,

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the granules on which increase in size posteriorly, submarginal terminal granule not enlarged. *Sternites*, the anterior ones smooth and shining, the last rather dull, with a few very fine granules and four subdenticulate keels which do not reach the anterior margin, the inner pair persisting to the posterior margin. *Tail*, first three segments with ten keels, fourth with eight keels and strong indications of the accessory keels; dorsal and supero-lateral keels with granules increasing in size posteriorly, terminal granule somewhat enlarged on the first three segments, infero-lateral and ventral keels finely and regularly granular, dorsal inter-carinal spaces shining, with a few coarse granules, the other inter-carinal spaces dull, with smaller granules; fifth segment with five granular keels; dorsal inter-carinal surface convex, sulcus not pronounced, smooth, with a few large granules; lateral and ventral surfaces shining with larger and smaller granules. *Vesicle* short, swollen, shining and keelless, the sulci obsolescent, with a number of large pores. *Aculeus* curved, stout, almost as long as the vesicle. Tooth under the aculeus short, strong, conical and truncated, wider than high, without any trace of a dorsal tubercle, the basal diameter of the tooth less than its distance from the base of the aculeus. *Pedipalpi* normal, hand swollen, wider than the brachium, smooth and shining, without traces of keels or granulation on its upper surface; fingers long, curved, smooth, with a smooth keel on the fixed finger, the movable finger not more than twice the length of the hand, basal series of teeth with two enlarged external lateral teeth. *Legs* keeled, the inter-carinal spaces dull, finely granular. *Pectines* with 22-27 teeth.

Dimensions.—Total length 38.5 mm., trunk 14.5, tail 24, length of hand 5.5, less than the first two caudal segments.

Distribution.—Victoria (Pyramid Hill), South Australia (Miller's Creek and Cooper's Creek).

The type is in the National Museum, Melbourne.

URODACUS MANICATUS (Thorell).

Loctonus manicatus, Thorell, 1876, A.M.N.H. (4), xvii., p. 14; Thorell, 1877, Atti. Soc. Ital., xix., p. 261.

Urodacus novae-hollandiae, Keyserling (not Peters), 1885, Arachn. Austr., ii., p. 34.

Urodacus abruptus, Pocock, 1888, A.M.N.H. (6), ii., p. 174.

Urodacus keyserlingi, Pocock, 1891, A.M.N.H. (6), viii., p. 245.

Urodacus manicatus, Kraepelin, 1908, Fauna Suedwest Austr., ii., lief. 7, p. 97.

Locality.—Kangaroo Island (2).

Remarks.—The specimens, a male and a female, show no points of difference from the mainland form of the species, but the length of the female (with distended abdomen) is remarkable, being 63 mm., or 8 mm. in excess of the maximum given by Kraepelin. The male has 16-17 teeth to the pectines, and the female 11-11. The range of the species extends from New South Wales through Victoria to South Australia. Whether it enters Western Australia is doubtful. Kraepelin states that it occurs there, but I have failed to find it among the hundred or more specimens of *Urodacus* which I have received from all parts of the south of Western Australia. On the other hand, the *Urodacus*, so plentiful in the vicinity of Eucla, is *U. novae-hollandiae*; this suggests that *U. manicatus* does not reach the western boundary of South Australia.

The presence of *U. manicatus* on Kangaroo Island, where *Cercophonius squama* also occurs, is significant, for in Tasmania the latter species is the sole representative of the Scorpionidea.

URODACUS YASCHENKOI (Birula).

Hemihoplopus yaschenkoi, Birula, 1904, Ann. Mus. Acad. Sci. St. Petersb., viii., No. 12, Nouvelles.

Urodacus yaschenkoi, Kraepelin, 1908, Fauna Suedwest Austr., ii., lief. 7, p. 95.

Locality.—Miller's Creek and Cooper's Creek.

Remarks.—Two females in the collection undoubtedly belong to this species; they agree with the description in all essential features, having a rounded brachium with 16-17 trichobothria, an irregular terminal group of 5-7 trichobothria on the lower surface of the hand, minute inner terminal claws on the third and fourth legs, 7 spines on the dorsal surface of the tarsus of the first leg, 14 teeth to the pectines, and the fifth caudal segment and the vesicle darker than the rest of the body.